

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
ACDA-12 MCE-00 NEA-10 /083 W  
-----020768 082126Z /66  
R 081928Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6545

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04235

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PARM, PINT, GW  
SUBJECT: SPD DEPUTY COMMENTS ON GERMAN ARMS EXPORTS

1. THE FOLLOWING INTERVIEW CONDUCTED ON COLOGNE'S  
DEUTSCHLANDFUNK WITH SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY HORST JUNG  
PROVIDES SOME ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS INTO THE ON-GOING  
DEBATE WITHIN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES REGARDING THE FRG'S  
APPARENT LIBERALIZATION OF ITS ARMS EXPORT POLICIES.

QUESTION. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STICKS TO ITS STANCE  
THAT THE FOREIGN POLICY RISK OF BECOMING INVOLVED IN  
UNDESIRABLE CONFLICTS IN AREAS OF TENSION THROUGH ARMS  
EXPORTS WIELDS MORE WEIGHT THAN THE ECONOMIC POLICY AND  
CYCLE POLICY ASPECT OF IT. BUT IRAN, WHICH IS PURCHASING  
SIX SUBMARINES, IS NOT THE CLASSICAL AREA OF TENSION.  
ARE THERE ANY OBJECTIONS NEVERTHELESS?

ANSWER. I SHARE THE VIEW OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.  
MY OBJECTIONS ARE EVEN GOING A BIT FURTHER. THE ORDER  
OF THE SIX SUBMARINES IS NOT THE ONLY ORDER UNDER  
DISCUSSION NOW; THERE IS TALK THAT IRAN WANTS TO BUY  
AS MANY AS 16 SUBMARINES AND, BEYOND THOSE, FRIGATES,  
MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS, AND MINESWEEPERS IN THE FEDERAL  
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REPUBLIC. AND AS FAR AS I KNOW THESE ORDERS ARE TIED  
TO TRAINING ASSISTANCE.

IF WE EXPAND ON THIS AND GRANT TRAINING AS-  
SISTANCE BEYOND THE EXPORT, THEN THE WHOLE THING BECOMES  
MORE PROBLEMATIC THAN ARMS EXPORTS IN GENERAL. AND IF  
I TAKE THE MAGNITUDE OF THE ORDER I ALSO SEE THE DANGER

OF AN EXPANSION OF THE ARMS CAPACITIES NOW IN EXISTENCE.  
LATER WE WILL HAVE EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS FOR THOSE  
WORKING IN THE ARMS INDUSTRY.

QUESTION. I DEDUCE FROM WHAT YOU ARE SAYING THAT THE  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OBVIOUSLY IS BECOMING MORE GENEROUS.  
BUT THERE IS A CABINET DECISION DATING BACK TO 1971  
WHICH SAYS THAT NO GERMAN WEAPONS SHALL BE EXPORTED TO  
AREAS OUTSIDE NATO, AND BESIDES, THERE IS THE WAR-ARMS  
CONTROL LAW OF 1961 WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SO FAR  
HAS INTERPRETED RESTRICTIVELY. IS A CHANGE IN ATTITUDE  
DISCERNIBLE?

ANSWER. IF YOU LOOK AT DEVELOPMENTS--A GUARANTEE FOR  
2 SUBMARINES FOR INDONESIA IN 1977, THE ARGENTINIAN  
ORDER IN DECEMBER, AND NOW THE DISCUSSION ON THE DEAL  
WITH IRAN--YOU CAN CONCLUDE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
IS INTERPRETING THE STIPULATIONS MORE GENEROUSLY  
IN REGARD TO THE BUILDING OF WAR VESSELS. I WOULD  
CONSIDER THIS A PROBLEM THOUGH, AND I WOULD SUGGEST  
CLINGING MORE CLOSELY TO THE 1971 STIPULATIONS OF THE  
FEDERAL CABINET AND THE WAR ARMS CONTROL BILL ALSO IN  
THE FIELD OF SHIPBUILDING.

QUESTION. YOU MENTIONED THE WORD "JOBS." SOME PEOPLE  
SAY THAT ARMAMENT ORDERS SECURE AND CREATE JOBS, WHICH  
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ON THE OTHER HAND MEANS EXPANDED ARMAMENT CAPACITIES. COULD THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BE FORCED SOME DAY TO GRANT FOREIGN POLITICALLY UNDESIRE ARMS EXPORTS IN ORDER TO AVOID UNEMPLOYMENT AND DISMISSALS IN THE ARMAMENT INDUSTRY? IS THAT NOT CONTRADICTIONARY?

ANSWER. I AGREE WITH YOU THAT IT IS. I POINTED OUT BEFORE THAT EXPANDING THE ARMS EXPORT BUSINESS IS LINKED TO AN EXPANSION OF ARMAMENT CAPACITIES. IF WE WILL AGREE TO THAT, WE WILL HAVE TO AGREE TO MORE ARMS EXPORTS IN FUTURE, WHICH CAN GET US INVOLVED IN FOREIGN POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS ENDANGERING THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. I AM, THEREFORE, OF THE OPINION THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE AS BEFORE IN THE FIELD OF ARMAMENT EXPORTS AND THAT WE OUGHT TO OBSERVE THE RESTRICTIONS.

QUESTION. WILL IT NOT ENTAIL DIFFICULTIES IF BONN WILL BE THAT RESTRICTIVE? WILL OTHER NATO COUNTRIES NOT BE PREPARED ANY MORE TO SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH BONN IF THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW EXPENSIVE ARMS SYSTEMS WILL BE INVOLVED, SYSTEMS WHICH CAN BE PURCHASES ONLY JOINTLY?

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ANSWER. THIS PROBLEM EXISTS INDEED. I AM OF THE OPINION THAT THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE TO BE OPENED IN HELSINKI IN APRIL, AND THE UN DISARMAMENT DEBATE PRESUPPOSE A JOINT STANCE TO NATO PARTNERS. WE MUST DISCUSS THAT PROBLEM WITH THE NATO PARTNERS AND ACHIEVE A JOINT SOLUTION. THAT WILL BE A HARD TASK TO BE HANDLED IN FUTURE.  
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